## Message Text

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**ACTION OES-05** 

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PR 120905Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8363

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 3229

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SPOP, SN

SUBJ: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR MARSHALL GREEN, FEB. 4-10, 1976

- 1. AFTER AN EMBASSY BRIEFING AND EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION WITH AID OFFICIALS ON FEBRUARY 5, AMBASSADOR GREEN SET OFF ON A SERIES OF VISITS AND DISCUSSIONS THAT PROVIDED A REPRESENTATIVE AND WE BELIEVE, ENCOURAGING PICTURE OF THE STATE OF POPULATION ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND.
- 2. ON FRIDAY MORNING FEB 6, AMBASSADOR GREEN VISITED RAMATHIBODI HOSPITAL WHERE HE MET PROF. AREE VALYASEVI M.D., DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE AT MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY, AND PROF. RACHIT BURI M.D. THE DEPUTY DEAN. AMBASSADOR GREEN THEN OBSERVED A "MINILAP" FEMALE STERILIZATION OPERATION PERFORMED BY DR.BUNPRIDI SIRIWONGS OF THE HOSPITAL'S STAFF. LATER IN THE MORNING, THE AMBASSADOR MET WITH THE CHIEF OF CHULALONGKORN HOSPITAL'S FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC (THAILAND'S LARGEST), ASSOCIATE PROF. AREE SOMBOONSUK M.D. AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITYINSTITUTE OF HEALTH RESEARCH, ASSOCIATE PROF. NIKORN DUSITSIN, M.D. AND DISCUSSED USER PREFERENCE OF ALTERNATIVE CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS AND NEW RESEARCH DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING THE USE OF INJECTABLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTRACEPTIVES.

- 3. A LIVELY ROUNDTABLE LUNCHEON WITH KEY ACTIVE REPRESENATIVES OF RTG AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS IN DEPTH THE SOCIAL, RELIGIOUS, AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE IMPACT OF POPULATION GROWTH TO DATE, AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE RTG'S POLICY TO REACH "REPLACEMENT" LEVELS OF GROWTH.
- 4. FRIDAY AFTERNOON AMBASSADOR GREEN EXPLORED THE OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED IN MAKING FAMILY PLANNING AVAILABLE TO THE VILLAGERS WITH INNOVATOR MICHAI VIRAVAIDYA, DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY BASED FAMILY PLANNING PROJECT (SUPPORTED BY IPPF. SATURDAY MORNING THE AMBASSADOR HAD A FIRST HAND LOOK AT SOME OF MICHAI'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS DURING A TOUR OF VILLAGES IN CHONBURI PROVINCE. MONDAY THE AMBASSADOR TRAVELED TO RATCHABURI PROVINCE TO OBSERVE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH CENTERS INCLUDING A REGIONAL MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTER AND A MIDWIFERY TRAINING SCHOOL.
- 5. THE CONSENSUS OF INFORMED OPINION HEARD DURING AMBASSADOR GREEN'S VISIT IS THAT THAILAND FACES PROBLEMS OF MAINTAINING SUPPLY LEVELS AND WIDENING DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS RATHER THAN ONE OF DEMAND FOR POPULATION PLANNING INFORMATION AND CONTRACEPTIVES. DISSEMINATING INFORMATION, CONTRACEPTIVES, AND MEDICAL SERVICE AMONG A RURAL POPULATION RECEPTIVE TO THE IDEA "MANY CHILDREN MAKE YOU POOR" IS THE CHALLENGE AND THE OPPORTUNITY FACING THE POPULATION PLANNERS OF THAILAND. THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTACINING PROGRAM MEMENTUM WAS STRESSED.
- 6. THE POST DESIRES TO RECORD ITS GREAT PLEASURE OVER AMBASSADOR GREEN'S VISIT. THIS VISIT FURTHER CONVEYED TO THE THAI OUR CONCERN THAT POPULATION GROWTH CONTROL BE GIVEN PRIORITY IN NATIONAL PLANNING AND UNDERSCORED THE OVERRIDING PRIORITY WE ARE ACCORDING TO U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM IN OUR PLANNING FOR U.S. CONCESSIONAL AIE IN FUTURE YEARS.

WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR MARSHALL GREEN, FEB. 4-10, 1976 TAGS: SPOP, SN, TH, (GREEN, MARSHALL)

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